

FUTURE PUBLIC USE OF FERNALD

APRIL 2000

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|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 6:30 p.m. | Welcome | Gary Stegner |
| 6:35 p.m. | Overview | Johnny Reising |
| 6:50 p.m. | Public Use Decision Process | Gary Stegner |
| 7:15 p.m. | Question and Answer Session | |
| 8:30 p.m. | Adjourn | |

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MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Identify participants
- Recap significant events resulting in final land use decision of Fernald
- Outline the upcoming decision process and timeline for public use of Fernald

PARTICIPANTS

- U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)
 - Owner of the Fernald site in perpetuity
- Natural Resource Trustees (NRTs)
 - DOE, U.S. DOI, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and OEPA oversee and guide restoration work at Fernald
- Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (FCAB)
 - Advises DOE on cleanup, restoration and long-term stewardship issues
- Fernald Residents for Environmental Safety and Health (FRESH)
 - Provides input on environmental, safety, health and other issues
- Fernald Community Reuse Organization (CRO)
 - Advises DOE on community/worker transition issues and reuse of Fernald
- Fernald Living History Project
 - Documents and preserves the history of Fernald and communities

INTEGRATED PUBLIC USE DECISION

Land Use/Restoration

- Environmental Assessment
- Natural Resource Restoration Plan



Decision Points:

- Final land use decision 6/99
- 23 acres for potential development
- 123 acres for OSDF
- Remainder committed to restoration

Public Use

- Master Plan for Public Use



Decision Points:

- Public use
- Public access
- Access controls
- Input requested by 9/15/00
- Public use decision 2/01

Stewardship

- Comprehensive Stewardship Plan



Components:

- Remedy maintenance & monitoring
- Technology development
- Restored area maintenance
- Draft Comprehensive Stewardship Plan 2001

Public Involvement



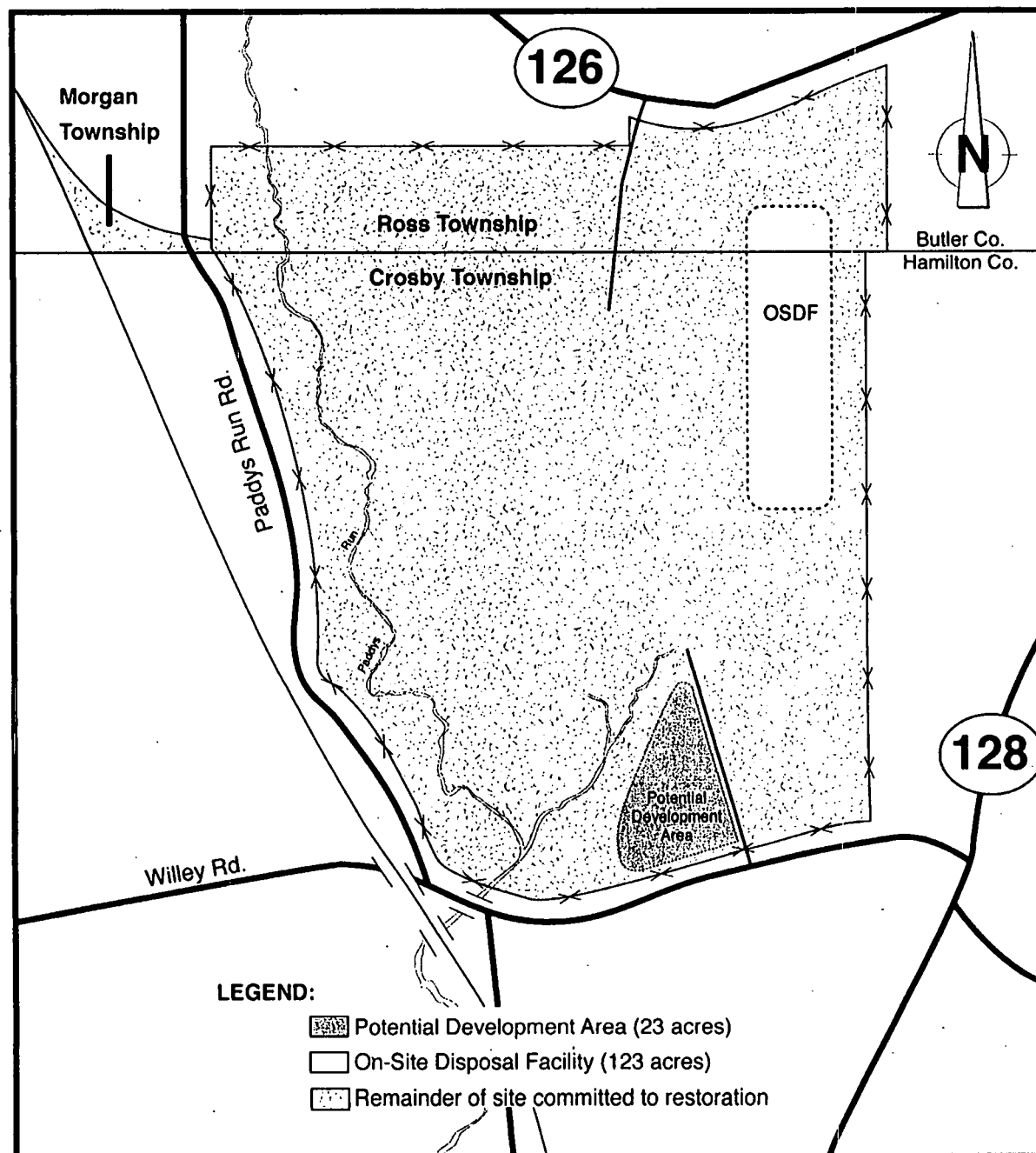


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HISTORY OF RESTORATION/ LAND USE PUBLIC INPUT

- April 1994 – DOE and NRTs public workshop
- September 1998 – Draft Final Restoration Plan and Final Land Use Environmental Assessment are issued for public review
- September 1998 – NRTs public roundtable on Restoration Plan
- October 1998 – DOE public hearing on proposed Final Land Use
- April 1999 – FCAB Future of Fernald Workshop
- June 1999 – DOE issues decision on Final Land Use

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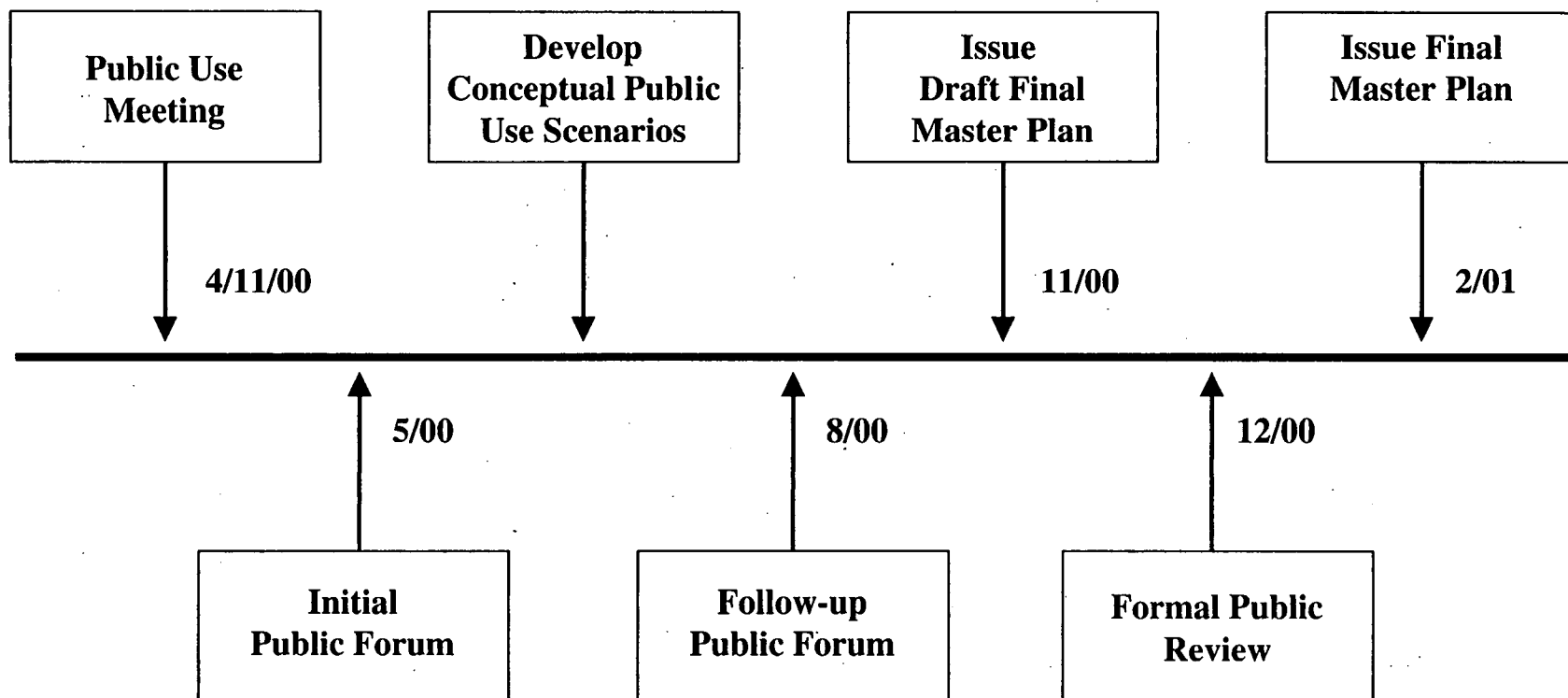
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FUTURE PUBLIC USE OVERVIEW

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- FCAB Stewardship Committee meeting will serve as regular forum to discuss public use issue
- NRTs, CRO, FRESH and Fernald Living History Project will work collectively with FCAB on public use issue including public involvement

DECISION PROCESS FOR FUTURE PUBLIC USE OF FERNALD



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TERMS

Environmental Assessment (EA) – A document issued to the public in September 1998 defining DOE's preferred alternative for future land use of Fernald, as well as alternative land uses. Required by the National Environmental Policy Act, the EA allows public input on DOE's proposal for future land use of Fernald.

Future Land Use – The final, designated use(s) of a DOE site. Land use decisions focus on the physical configuration of the land after cleanup and restoration activities are complete, as opposed to public uses that are allowed on the land. DOE's land use decision for Fernald is to set aside 884 acres for natural resource restoration, 20 acres for ecological research projects, 23 acres for potential development and 123 acres for the On-Site Disposal Facility.

Draft Master Plan for Public Use – Outlines DOE's proposal for future public use of, and access to, restored areas of Fernald.

Natural Resource Restoration Plan – Developed by the Natural Resource Trustees, the plan outlines the proposed sequence and scope of natural resource restoration projects for the 884 acres that will be dedicated to restoration.

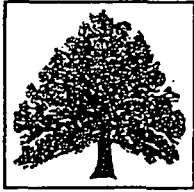
Public Access – Points at which the public will have access to Fernald property.

Public Use – Activities the public will be permitted to carry out on Fernald property. Elements of public use include access points, access controls, signage, facilities, prohibited actions, etc. DOE, with support of the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board and other stakeholder groups, will be obtaining public input on the appropriate public use of Fernald over the next year.

Restoration – The process of intentionally altering some aspect of a natural system (typically through earthwork and/or planting vegetation) to enhance the ecological value of the system or to create a new type of ecological system.

Steward – Entity responsible for maintaining the protection of human health and the environment posed by nuclear and/or chemical materials, waste and residual contamination remaining after cleanup is complete.

Stewardship -- Activities required to maintain an adequate level of protection of human health and the environment posed by nuclear and/or chemical materials, waste and residual contamination remaining after cleanup is complete. Stewardship may also include activities required to maintain restored areas and public use amenities.



Department of Energy

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FEB 07 2000

Mr. James Bierer
Fernald Citizens Advisory Board
P.O. Box 544
Ross, Ohio 45061

DOE-0386-00

Dear Jim,

STATUS OF NATURAL RESOURCE AND STEWARDSHIP ISSUES

In light of our recent discussions concerning Natural Resource Restoration (NRR), future public use and long-term stewardship issues at the Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP), this letter provides an update for the Department of Energy (DOE) activities that are underway in these areas. DOE recognizes the value of receiving stakeholder input in all aspects of our site restoration and planning, and remains committed to keeping the Fernald Citizens Advisory Board (FCAB) informed on ongoing restoration activities and maintaining a meaningful process for receiving input on the key decisions affecting the long-term vision for the site.

Background

In 1986, the State of Ohio filed a claim against the DOE in the amount of \$206 Million for injuries to natural resources. The Fernald Natural Resource Trustees have been working for the last six years to resolve liability that DOE faces for injuries to natural resources under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). The Natural Resource Trustees include the U.S. Department of Interior (USDIO) working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) and DOE, who has a dual role as "Responsible Party", and a Natural Resource Trustee. The Natural Resource Trustees have jointly developed a Natural Resource Impact Assessment (NRIA) and a Natural Resource Restoration Plan (NRRP). The Natural Resource Trustees have tentatively agreed that DOE implementation of the NRRP and the implementation of a Groundwater Education Project would resolve natural resource liability at the Fernald site, including the 1986 State of Ohio claim.

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Restoration Planning

The Restoration work at the FEMP involves the implementation of twelve projects over an eleven-year period. The NRRP provides DOE's conceptual approach to planning and implementing the twelve restoration projects. Two of the twelve projects have already been implemented in the field and the third project, Area 8, Phase II Restoration (A8PII,) will be implemented starting this spring. The draft A8PII Restoration Design was issued to the Natural Resource Trustees, and members of the FCAB Stewardship Committee participating on the Natural Resource Working Group, for review and comment in December 1999. DOE is very interested in the FCAB's input on restoration projects at the FEMP and looks forward to any additional comments from the members of the Stewardship Committee.

In an effort to keep the FCAB better informed of ongoing restoration activities, DOE would like to propose that a monthly update of restoration planning and implementation activities be presented at each of the Stewardship Committee meetings as an alternative to continuing the Natural Resource Working Group concept. Briefings can also be provided at the full FCAB meetings as deemed appropriate. In addition, DOE would like to propose that the Natural Resource Trustees be invited to the FCAB Stewardship Committee meetings. DOE believes that this forum will allow the FCAB Stewardship Committee to have more consistent updates and regular opportunities for input into Restoration Planning and Implementation.

In the fall of 1998, DOE issued the draft final *Natural Resources Restoration Plan* along with a *Draft Environmental Assessment for Final Land Use at the FEMP* under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for a formal public review. The *Environmental Assessment* proposed that 884 acres of the Fernald site be committed to Natural Resource Restoration. Public comments on the *Environmental Assessment* and the *Natural Resources Restoration Plan* were largely supportive and in July 1999, DOE issued a NEPA Finding of No Significant Impact documenting the decision regarding final land-use. DOE also committed to the issuance of a *Master Plan for Public Use of the FEMP* in the *Response to Public Comments on the Environmental Assessment* that would outline DOE's proposal for public use of the restored portions of the Fernald Site. DOE issued the draft *Master Plan* to the Natural Resource Working Group and Natural Resource Trustees in December 1999 for review and comment.

Key Inputs Needed

Future public use of the restored areas at FEMP is a key issue for DOE and is closely coupled with restoration and long-term stewardship planning and design. DOE recognizes there are a broad range of stakeholder views on this issue, and is fully committed to involving stakeholders in all key future public use decisions. DOE has received comments on the *Master Plan* from one FCAB Representative to the Natural Resource Working Group, and from the Natural Resource Trustees. A revision of the *Master Plan* is currently in progress and DOE will formally reissue the plan to the Natural Resource Trustees and

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FCAB Stewardship Committee for review and comment. DOE is requesting that the pending revision of the *Master Plan* be used for continuing discussions on future public use. Once the FCAB Stewardship Committee, the Natural Resource Trustees and DOE have reached consensus on the *Master Plan*, it will be released for formal public review and comment.

DOE would also like to request that the FCAB Stewardship Committee begin to focus on a number of specific questions related to future public use. To facilitate review of the *Master Plan*, DOE requests that the FCAB Stewardship Committee provide input on the following:

1. What are the appropriate types of public use for the restored areas of the FEMP?
2. What types of public uses should DOE prohibit or restrict?
3. What are the appropriate levels of control (e.g., access controls, institutional controls, monitoring of site use) that should be imposed to achieve the intended uses?

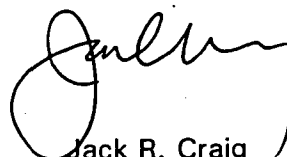
In addition to these specific questions, DOE would also like the FCAB Stewardship Committee to provide input on the construction of an "Educational Facility" at the site. Specifically, input is needed on the following:

1. Is an "Educational Facility" appropriate?
2. If so, where should such a facility be constructed?
3. What use(s) should the facility serve?

Input on the questions related to the *Master Plan* is respectfully requested within the next six months to facilitate issuance of the Plan for public review. Input on the questions related to an "Educational Facility" is similarly requested by September 15, 2000.

DOE looks forward to receiving the FCAB's input for these very important areas to help ensure the long-term success of the FEMP remediation and restoration effort. Please contact me at (513) 648-3101 or Johnny Reising at (513) 648-3139 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jack R. Craig
Director

FEMP:Yerace

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